

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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R 050751Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1642

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USUN NEW YORK 636

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 6449

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MY, BX

SUBJ: BRUNEI PARTAI RAKYAT REPS TO UN; SARAWAK CHIEF MINISTER

ACKNOWLEDGES AID TO PRB

REF: A. KUALA LUMPUR 6383; B. KUALA LUMPUR 4275

1. MALAYSIA GOVT MESSENGER BROUGHT MALAYSIAN CERTIFICATES OF IDENTITY OF PARTAI RAKYAT BRUNEI (PRB - BRUNEI PEOPLE'S PARTY) LEADERS AZAHARI BIN MAHMUD (AKA A.M. AZAHARI), ZAINI BIN HAJI AHMAD, AND MUHAMMAD YASIN BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (AKA YASIN AFFANDY OR JASSIN AFFANDI) TO EMBASSY FOR VISAING OCT 28. WITH CERTIFICATES WAS TELEGRAM FROM NAJAMUDDINE RIFAI, SECY UN FOURTH COMMITTEE, INVITING ZAINI TO TESTIFY BEFORE COMMITTEE. EMBASSY INFORMED MESSENGER, WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS COMING FROM PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, THAT WE WOULD REQUIRE DIPLOMATIC NOTE OR PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF THREE BEFORE VISAS COULD BE ISSUED. THERE SEEMED SOME QUESTION WHETHER ALL THREE WERE IN KUALA LUMPUR SO MFA SENT NOTE "CONFIRMING" THEIR INVITATION TO APPEAR BEFORE COMMITTEE AND REQUESTING THE EMBASSY "FACILITATE" CONFIDENTIAL

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THEIR APPLICATIONS. C-2 SINGLE ENTRY VISAS WERE ISSUED OCT 29

VALID FOR THIRTY DAYS.

2. GOVT NEWS SERVICE BERNAMA REPORTED FROM KUCHING OCT 29 THAT SARAWAK CHIEF MINISTER RAHMAN YA'AKUB TOLD REPORTERS THAT MALAYSIA SUPPORTS ANY MOVE TO BRING AN END OF COLONIALIZATION ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD AND (SIC) THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE ARE INTERFERING IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ANY COUNTRY. RAHMAN REPORTEDLY SAID: "WE HAVE NEVER INTERFERED IN BRUNEI AFFAIRS. ON THE CONTRARY, IT HAD LAUNCHED A MOVEMENT IN SARAWAK TO INSTIGATE MALAYSIANS IN THE STATE PARTICULARLY THOSE IN LIMBANG TO GO AGAINST THE MALAYSIAN GOVT." A NUMBER OF BRUNEI CITIZENS WHO HAD ABSCONDED (SIC) TO SARAWAK DURING THE PAST YEAR HAD TESTIFIED THAT BRUNEI HAD BEEN MEDDLING IN SARAWAK'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. RAHMAN ASSERTED THAT THE PRB'S STRUGGLE FOR BRUNEIAN INDEPENDENCE IS "IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WISHES OF THE UN DECOLONIALIZATION COMMITTEE."

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH MALAYSIA'S ROLE IN PROMOTING THE PRB AND IN PROVOKING UNREST IN BRUNEI WAS ORIGINALLY CONCEALED, NOW LITTLE ATTEMPT IS MADE TO HIDE THE FORMER ALTHOUGH THE LATTER IS BEING HANDLED THROUGH CLANDESTINE CHANNELS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE DCM WAS RECENTLY TOLD BY A SENIOR BRITISH INTELLIGENCE OFFICER THAT AZAHARI IS SIMPLY AN AGENT OF THE MALAYSIAN EXTERNAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE (MEIO) WHICH FALLS UNDER THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPT. ANOTHER SOURCE TOLD EMBOFFS RECENTLY THAT THE PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN BEING CARRIED OUT FROM LIMBANG HAS AS ITS LOCAL CHIEF A MALAYSIAN SPECIAL BRANCH OFFICER ACTIVE IN THE "DISTURBANCES" IN KUCHING WHICH ACCOMPANIED THE FALL OF THE OPPOSITION SARAWAK NATIONAL PARTY (SNAP) GOVERNMENT IN 1970 AND ITS REPLACEMENT BY A COALITION LED BY RAHMAN YA'AKUB. UNDERHILL

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